

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Rep. Sharice L. Davids**  
**Kansas Third District**

April 19, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Secretary Regan,

On March 30, 2023, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly wrote to you asking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use its authority under section 211(c)(4) of the *Clean Air Act* to grant emergency waivers allowing the sale of E15 fuel – gasoline blended with 10.5 to 15 percent ethanol – during the summer months of 2023. I write to you today supporting this request and urging the EPA to act swiftly to grant such necessary waivers.

As you know, the EPA took similar action last year as gas prices increased due to several global factors, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In June 2022, the average price of a gallon of gas peaked at \$5.01 per the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). Thanks in part to the EPA's decision to issue a series of waivers, gas prices fell quickly, dropping nearly a dollar in just two months.

As Kansans prepare for summer travel, the cost benefits of E15 – which is often several cents cheaper per gallon than E10 – can add up. This request is even more urgent as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) announced recently that they will be reducing their crude oil output through the end of the year. The Associated Press reports that OPEC's decision alone could increase domestic gas prices by 26 cents per gallon.

In addition to a series of emergency waivers, I also support – whether through the EPA's regulatory authority or congressional action like the *Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2023* – more permanent summertime sales of E15 across the country.

Last June, I voted with many of my Democratic and Republican colleagues to pass the *Year-Round Fuel Choice Act of 2021*, which would codify summer E15 sales into law, through the House of Representatives. And earlier this year, I joined a bipartisan group of House Members to ask the EPA to quickly approve a rule allowing permanent E15 summer sales in several Midwestern states, which the agency proposed in March.

Lowering costs for hardworking Kansans remains top of mind, especially as we approach a period of increased travel for many families. Therefore, I urge the EPA to use the *Clean Air Act* to allow for E15 summertime sales this year, and I look forward to working with the Biden administration to craft a more permanent solution for the future. This move would keep more money in people's pockets, improve our nation's energy security, and lessen our reliance on foreign crude oil production.

Thank you for your attention to this issue, and I stand ready to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Davids', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress